

MINUTES

A special meeting of the China Grove Town Council

**Tuesday, August 4, 2009
7:00 p.m.**

**China Grove Town Hall
China Grove, North Carolina**

CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Bringle called the meeting of August 4, 2009 to order. Mayor Bringle called roll. All council members were present with the exception of Mr. Withers who arrived at 7:03 there was a quorum. The meeting started at 7:00 pm at the Municipal Building.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to adopt the agenda for the regular meeting of the Town Council on August 4, 2009 with an addition under New Business II) NCGSHP Resolution and Acknowledgement of Mr. Don Webb. Mr. Bivens seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mr. Overcash made a motion to adopt the July 7, 2009 regular meeting. Mr. Welter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Mayor Bringle recognized Mr. Don Webb who served many terms on the Town Council and also on various boards for the Town of China Grove. He stated that Don will be missed and they will be in our prayers. He stated that the funeral will be Friday at 2:00 at Landis Baptist Church and the visitation the night prior at Linn Honeycutt Funeral Home. Mayor Bringle requested a moment of silence for Mr. Webb.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Ms. Donna Moss – 405 Blackwelder Street

Ms. Moss stated that the time period on the billing was from 6-16-09 to 7-15-09 and believes that there should have been a prorated amount on the bill for part of it being within last fiscal year. She stated that she was billed 1,000 more gallons than previously and also that she believed that the debt service fee should have been prorated as well. She stated that we will not see growth as long as our utility rates continue to rise.

Mr. Ray Allen – 311 Chapel Street

Mr. Allen stated that he does not understand the water bill. He stated that he lives alone and his water bill is different every month. He stated that his bill also increased this month by 1,000 gallons.

Mayor Bringle asked these two citizens to contact Mr. Pless.

NEW BUSINESS

I) Town Hall Hours

Mayor Bringle stated that since staff was reduced there is a need to close Town Hall during lunch per the request of the Town Manager. He stated that this does not require board action but wants to properly notify residents.

Mr. Pless stated that the “night ring” will be put on during lunch. He stated that protocol has always called for more than one employee present at all times during business hours. He stated that he wanted to start this on a continual basis and see how it works out.

Mr. Lyseski stated that he believes he should be able to work with this and see what works best.

Mr. Pless stated that they will begin at 12:00 and make any adjustments necessary. He stated that there is an option to close at 12:15 or 12:30. He stated that primarily it is the phone that rings instead of customers coming to the office.

Mr. Welter stated that the phone message will need to be changed.

II) NCGSHP Resolution

Mr. Pless stated that this resolution will provide the last paperwork for the application for the North Carolina Governor’s Highway Safety Program. He stated that this is for a new grant.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to approve the NCGSHP Resolution. Mr. Welter seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

OLD BUSINESS

I) South Bostian Street Drainage Repair

Mr. Ketner provided copies of bids to the town council. He stated that the information provided shows the east wall has the most damage. He gave three different options for repairs.

Mayor Bringle stated that even the lowest bid is extremely expensive.

Mr. Ketner stated that it is quite expensive, but this is a hand-laid brick culvert under the road. He stated that he doesn't see any visible damage when looking with a flashlight, but it is a guess to how long it will hold up.

Mr. Welter stated that if you make repairs to only one side you may have to turn around and do the other side and it may not be worth it. He asked if there would be any grant money available for this project.

Mr. Pless does not believe that if it were available it most likely would not arrive in a timely manner.

Mayor Bringle stated that with more hard rains, they will be spending this large amount anyway.

Mr. Welter asked how long it would last the way it is.

Mr. Ketner stated that he has no idea and that it could go at anytime.

Mr. Pless stated that this would use Powell Bill funds and would be using the allotted amount for the year. He stated that they may need to just do repairs and save the money for other projects.

Mr. Ketner stated that they should be able to keep one lane open at all times.

Mr. Withers asked the plans for Powell Bill funds otherwise.

Mr. Pless stated that part of it is for match to the CMAQ sidewalk project and repairs to existing sidewalks and several critical streets that need to be resurfaced. He stated that he believes it is worth a chance to perform maintenance on the area to stabilize the area.

Mr. Lyseski made a motion to accept the Spinnaker bid to replace the east wall at \$59,201.05 along with option 1 for west side at \$6,089. Mr. Withers seconded the motion. The motion carried 4-1 with Mr. Welter casting the opposing vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

I) Project Update: Fire Truck

Chief Gledhill stated that the fire truck was outside for the council to view. He stated that the truck has been used and has run very well.

Mr. Pless stated that he is very pleased with the new truck and encouraged the council to view the truck as well. He stated that the truck is paid for.

Mayor Bringle also thanked the staff who worked with Kannapolis and Landis on the READ DAYS event at the Library last Wednesday.

Mayor Bringle thanked the Board of Trade, town employees, merchants and volunteers for Farmers Day 2009. He thanked Mr. Withers and his family. He stated that it was a wonderful success and the best part is to see how well the town maintenance people worked to clean the streets and get things back to looking good. He appreciated the hard work from everyone.

Mr. Pless stated that the Police Chief search has begun and they will be accepting applications through September 18th. He stated that he will need input from the council pertaining to this search.

Mr. Pless stated that the CMAQ project is still underway.

Mr. Pless stated that they have received the ALR Architecture and they will be continuing with the project and grant funding.

Mr. Pless thanked the staff, volunteers and Mr. Withers for the Farmers Day event.

Mr. Pless thanked Ms. Eller for the Salisbury/Rowan READS event as well as staff and the Mayor reading to the children.

Mr. Pless stated that they are advertising for bids for a new service truck and dump truck for the Public Works department. He also welcomed the council to view the fire truck.

Mr. Welter stated that the Captain's Galley restaurant is still washing their grease and byproducts into the drain and streets and wants to see this readdressed.

ADJOURN

Mr. Withers made a motion to adjourn. Mr. Lyseski seconded the motion, which carried unanimously.

Respectfully Submitted,

Amanda A. Eller, Town Clerk

Donald E. Bringle, Mayor